

>COLOMBIA/U.S.>RATHER: Nothing was normal today at the U.S. Embassy in >EMBASSY ATTACK>Bogota, Colombia, where only 24 hours earlier, a car bomb exploded just outside the building. One person was killed, six others wounded. The suspected culprits in this attack reportedly were not ideological nor religious anti-American terrorists, but drug dealers. Richard Schlesinger reports.

SCHLESINGER: The American ambassador to Colombia, arriving at his embassy this morning under heavy guard. Embassy employees arriving in government vans, followed by armed security men. (footage of the above-mentioned) Americans in Bogota have become targets. Before yesterday's car-bomb explosion, Colombia's cocaine barons threatened to kill Americans if Colombian drug suspects wanted in the U.S. are extradited. Washington has been pressuring the Colombians to go after drug traffickers for years. When Colombia's justice minister was murdered in his car, the president of Colombia blamed the traffickers. He ordered a major crackdown. Tons of cocaine and marijuana were destroyed. Some alleged traffickers wanted in the U.S. were captured and told they would be sent to trial in America. Today, while workers cleaned up outside, Ambassador Lewis Tambs stopped short of blaming the narcotics traffickers for yesterday's bombing. But he promised to keep up the pressure against Colombia's roughly \$80-billion-a-year drug industry. LEWIS TAMBS (U.S. ambassador to Colombia): In spite of the unfortunate consequences that sometimes accompany our struggle, we vow to continue the common fight against drug trafficking and terrorism.

SCHLESINGER: Earlier this year, Tambs had to be recalled after U.S. intelligence learned of a plot to kill him. Today, the Colombian-American Center in Bogota was closed after it received a bomb threat. Last week, when the threats from drug traffickers became more serious, about 10 embassy employees were sent home. Now that those threats may have become a reality, one embassy official says it's possible more embassy workers will be going home too. Richard Schlesinger, CBS News, Bogota. <